

NATIONS WATCHING AMERICA AND JAPAN

Diplomatists at Geneva
Look for Struggle at
Conference.

BLESSING BY LEAGUE
Nipponese Start Spreading
Propaganda Books in
Assembly.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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GENEVA, Sept. 28.—The Washington conference for the limitation of armaments will have the benediction of the League of Nations under a resolution proposed by Lord Robert Cecil to-day and unanimously passed by the Disarmament Commission.

While this resolution is really expressive of a sincere desire on the part of most nations represented at Geneva to see tangible results come from Washington on this problem over which the league worked in vain, it is an interesting fact that all the talk heard at the Geneva meeting is to the effect that disarmament is now regarded in European diplomatic circles as an entirely secondary aim of the Washington meeting.

Instead of being primarily for disarmament the conference is seen by the majority of delegates attending the League of Nations Assembly as a battle between the United States and Japan over their respective relations to China and the Far East. This is almost the only phase of the conference that is being talked about when diplomatists discuss the prospective meeting at Washington.

Coincidentally, however, the Japanese delegation here has addressed to every other delegation two books, one on Japan's right to existence, an article by George Bronson Rea, and the other on the progress of liberal institutions in Japan by M. Miyakawa, former chargé d'affaires at Washington.

This is the first Japanese propaganda attempt here and it can be regarded as deeply significant. It is evident that a great misconception exists in some capitals concerning American motives in bringing up some of the questions listed in that part of the Washington agenda touching on the Pacific. Much elucidation will be necessary if those are to be properly understood. The tendency in some quarters seems to be to ascribe them to America's desire to curb Japan commercially as a dangerous rival rather than because of a benevolent desire to maintain an open door and protect nations like China.

Senator Georges Reynald, French member of the Disarmament Commission, said to-day:

"The Washington conference is assuming more importance for France because France, not Great Britain, can be an arbiter in the Pacific question."

This is unquestionably France's desire, but many of the shrewd diplomatists gathered here to watch the league leave France largely out of the Pacific discussion and see Great Britain as the arbiter between America and Japan. Some even go so far as to criticize American diplomacy in creating a situation where in they see Great Britain holding the role.

Because European diplomacy now sees the Washington conference only as a big battle between rival Powers, as it once saw all conferences as a struggle between Germany and Great Britain, there is more and more scoffing at the idea that it will produce any definite disarmament measure, naval or otherwise.

The Disarmament Commission decided to ask experts to consider the propriety of requesting the League Assembly to make public all researches on poison gas, Lord Robert Cecil contending that this might stop its use. H. A. L. Fisher of Great Britain ridiculed this, saying he feared poison gas had come to stay, though its use might be curtailed. The Japanese representative did not vote on the resolution. Another resolution presented asks the nations to stimulate disarmament propaganda.

LLOYD GEORGE'S REPLY TO SINN FEIN DELAYED

'Irish Bulletin' Answers Churchill's Speech.

DUBLIN, Sept. 28.—The Irish Bulletin (organ of Sinn Fein) to-night expresses the desire for a successful conference, and, dealing with Winston Spencer Churchill's recent speech, says:

"Mr. Churchill wants a successful conference because British interests demand it; Ireland also is anxious for a successful conference. But if, as Mr. Churchill suggests, a successful conference can only be one in which Ireland must surrender her national position and yield up the right to self-determination, no successful conference is possible, and British interests will have to wait on British justice."

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Sept. 28.—Prime Minister Lloyd George's reply to Eamon de Valera will not be issued to-day, and there is some doubt whether it will be available to-morrow. It was announced officially to-day. No hitch has developed, it was said.

BELFAST FUNERAL PARTY FIRED UPON

Man Killed and Three Others Wounded.

By the Associated Press.
BELFAST, Sept. 28.—A funeral party returning to this city from a cemetery was fired upon and one man was killed and three others were wounded. The funeral was that of one of the victims of last Sunday's bombing. When the mourners arrived at the junction of Donegal street and Falls road they were confronted by a large crowd, several members of which produced revolvers and fired wildly. The people scattered, but several of them fell. The district still simmers with excitement.

FREEHOLDER CONVICTED.
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, N. J., Sept. 28.—The first conviction growing out of the alleged million-dollar road graft charges was had in the Cape May County Court to-day when a jury returned a verdict of guilty against Joseph P. Mackinac, Freeholder from Lower Township. The specific charge against Mr. Mackinac was maintenance in office in that he permitted misuse of the county funds in rebuilding what is known as the Mummytown road.

JAPAN'S ARMY PLANS EVEN OUTSTRIP NAVAL

Continued from First Page.

and Count Yasuoka Uchida, Minister of Foreign Affairs, confers with his Highness it is invariably in the presence of the General Staff, who, as said, takes orders only from the Genro. Pretty nearly every well informed man in Japan knows that it is within the power of the General Staff to bring about the fall of a Cabinet. The process is admirably simple. The General Staff directs the Minister of War to resign. The Premier, who is limited as to choice in the selection of a successor, tenders the vacant portfolio to one of the half dozen Marshals, Generals or Lieutenant-Generals of the army. He is met with polite refusals and is finally compelled to admit his inability to complete his Cabinet. Such an admission in Japan is tantamount to withdrawal from public life, and some other Premier more susceptible to the dictation of the Genro and the General Staff is put in his place.

There can be no question but that the Japanese army has been and is maintained at a high degree of efficiency. It is probably the best disciplined and equipped army in the world. It recognizes but one authority, the General Staff, which is composed of the keenest observers of military developments throughout the world. Even now the technical men in the General Staff are working out a plan to bring about the reorganization of the army, based upon the lessons learned in the world war. The extent of these plans is most carefully guarded.

Even the numerical strength of the land forces is shrouded in more or less mystery. The peace strength is given as 273,731, of whom 16,045 are officers, 33,869 non-commissioned officers and 223,817 privates. These figures, however, are believed to be incomplete in that they do not include the units attached to Colonial and other Government undertakings in Shantung, Korea, Manchuria, Siberia and Saghalien. The most definite estimate of the total "peace strength" of the Japanese army is around 300,000, with a sufficient number of reserves available for war services within a few months approximating 1,500,000, and with a further reserve susceptible of preparation within eight months of 1,500,000 additional.

Of the regular establishment, there are in round numbers 40,000 troops in Korea, 25,000 in Siberia, 10,000 in Manchuria, 5,000 in north Saghalien, 8,000 in Shantung and 5,000 in Formosa, besides those scattered around distant islands owned by Japan and in those mandated to it under the authority of the Versailles Treaty.

New Defence Programme.

The new "national defence" programme authorized by the Diet (House of Representatives) in 1918 granted authority to the army to make a thorough revision in its organization. Among other things it directed the creation of two new divisions, each approximating 12,000 men. The important change decided on was to reorganize the divisions on the three regiment basis and to abolish the brigade.

As a result of this change an army corps now consists of two divisions, totalling six regiments. Excluding the guards division, the Japanese army within a year will have twenty-four divisions, which reorganized on the three regiment basis, will form thirty-two divisions, or sixteen army corps. Provision is also made for mountain and field batteries, each of three units and four guns, and the expansion of cavalry, commissariat, engineering, communications, automobile and an aviation corps, which, it is predicted, will surpass those in both numbers and equipment contemplated by Great Britain and the United States.

The General Staff is credited with even more ambitious plans for the artillery branch of the service than are provided by the budget for the present year, which represents 17 per cent. of the total appropriations of 1,500,000,000 yen, or about \$300,000,000. Among these features, which are known to the military observers of other Governments stationed at Tokyo, is to provide 1,000,000 bayonets (men) in the artillery branch.

The division of the Japanese army

is generally composed of two divisions of infantry and one regiment each of cavalry and artillery, one battalion of engineers and one of service of supplies. A regiment of infantry consists of four battalions of 500 men each and a regiment of cavalry of three or four squadrons of 100 sabres each. A regiment of field artillery consists of six batteries, each of four guns, while a battalion of engineers consists of three companies, each with 300 men, and a battalion of service of supplies of 300 men.

Expansion of Arsenal.

Under the present plan of reorganization provision is made for expanding the military arsenal, in accordance with the German scheme of distributing these bases pretty generally throughout the empire. It is worthy of note that the arsenal plan contemplates the establishment of one at Seoul, in Korea, over which Japan, in theory, maintains only a civil form of government. It is also significant that the new army scheme contemplates the expansion of national armaments "to guard our interests in Manchuria and China," it is explained.

Education in the army begins as early in Japan as it did in Russia and Germany before the war. Local military preparatory schools are maintained in the leading centres, and provide the lowest grades in the school of education for officers. The central military preparatory school at Tokyo receives the graduates from the local schools, they are then passed on to the cadet school also at Tokyo, and finally to the Staff College for the finishing touches.

The military education of the Japanese really begins at the root, because the curriculum in the kindergarten embraces physical training and the achievements of military heroes are kept constantly before the minds of the pupils. Graduates from the public schools are permitted to volunteer for one year's service, after which they are enrolled in the reserve service, with the rank of non-commissioned officers. The volunteers are required to pay their own barrack expenses and must serve three months each for two years before they are enrolled in the territorial army.

Compulsory military service was first established in Japan in 1873, only twenty years after Commodore Perry had revealed to the Japanese the wonders of civilization. The original plan is still adhered to. It requires that all able bodied Japanese males between 20 and 40 years must respond to the first call to arms. Actual service is divided into active service, reserve service and depot service, beginning at 20 years and extending for 17 years and 4 months.

The only exemption allowed in the service is to sons of a parent more than 50 years old, who is judged incompetent to support himself. Postponement of the period of service in favor of study at schools, the curriculum of which embrace military training. All boys above 20 years are subject to conscription, but the period of service may be postponed until they have reached the age of 25, if they are studying at school of a quasi-military character. Men who have passed the age of 30 are enrolled in the territorial army list.

Lads liable to conscription roughly number 600,000 a year, to which there are annually added 100,000 students whose service has been postponed for educational reasons. Some idea of the completeness of military education in Japan is provided by the fact that in 1908 the ratio of illiteracy among recruits and volunteers was 5.8 per cent. and only 2 per cent. in 1919.

The Japanese Government treats its soldiers pretty well, though it does not overpay them. Officers and men are permitted to assist the business of their families when military conditions are favorable. With the steady increase in the cost of living the Government recently has made monthly allowances to non-commissioned officers and privates, the privates receiving 2 yen 34 sen (about \$1.06) more than his pay, which is little enough in view of the fact that his pay is less than \$5 a month in American money.

Provision for the maintenance of troops includes one quart of rice and

Japanese Exclusion Acts.

ANOTHER article by Louis Seibold will be published in to-morrow's New York Herald. It will deal with the problems developed by the attitude of the United States and certain Canadian provinces in passing laws excluding Japanese labor and it will show that these exclusion acts are at the bottom of most of the hard feeling now possessed by the Japanese for Americans.

clothing and a very small money allowance in addition, which approximates about 7 cents a day. He is allowed 16 sen for clothing and an allowance from 17 to 24 yen a year is made for each foot soldier, or about \$17; for the cavalry from 31 to 37 yen; for the artillery 30 to 36 yen, for the engineering branch 28 to 34, for commissariats 29 to 35 yen.

For camp utensils and barrack necessities there are twenty-six grades of allowances, ranging from 4.54 to 6.74 yen for privates and from 1.06 to 1.38 yen for officers. Generous provision is made, however, for horses, which are mainly secured from Mongolia and Manchuria, and are sturdy little animals, capable of standing almost as great hardship as the men that ride them.

I witnessed a cavalry manoeuvre in the vicinity of Kobe a short time ago and was greatly impressed with the seasoned appearance of both men and horses. Some of the horses appeared to have been brought from America, as they averaged five hands higher than the smallest animals that manifestly came from the Asiatic mainland. The men, all of whom were between 18 and 30, seemed to be finely drawn by adequate training and discipline. Without exception they were robust, sinewy and lacked the beefiness of the British and German fighting men, presumably due to a spare but muscle making diet.

In their manoeuvres both men and horses reflected the perfection of training, and while they did not present the orderly epic and span appearance of our own troops, they seemed to be in first rate shape for any service, no matter how arduous. The discipline in the Japanese army is perhaps the most rigid in the world, and I am informed by competent authorities that it adheres strictly to the standards that once existed in the German military establishment. The officers exercise the fullest control over their men and maintain no relations with them other than those called for by regulations.

In the eyes of the private soldier the officers represent a superior class, which is sharply and scrupulously defined in personal relations. As was the case in the German army, the men are taught that obedience to the commands of their superiors is the chief requisite for an efficient soldier, and infractions of even the minor rules are summarily punished. It is early impressed upon them that sacrifice in the service of the Mikado is the supreme consideration that their officers are representatives of his Imperial Majesty and that their orders must be obeyed regardless of consequences to individuals. But the private soldier is not expected to exercise any judgment or to substitute individual initiative for the arbitrary rules relating to his conduct and applied by the officers.

It is his place to obey these rules, even though circumstances might justify the application of his own devices. This rule is never departed from, no matter what the consequences. It was rigorously enforced during periods of the Russian-Japanese war, when, on rare occasions, the morale of the demoralized Russian army was sufficiently restored to mow down the hordes of Japanese troops marching unflinchingly up to the mouths of the cannon of the opposing armies to die with a "Banzai!" for their Emperor.

DELEGATES TO FIX U. S. ARMS POLICY

American Members Will Hold
Meeting Soon and Receive
Defence Data.

New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Sept. 28.

The policy the United States will pursue at the arms conference will be decided on at a meeting of American delegates in Washington within a few days. It was said at the State Department to-day that the date of the meeting had not been definitely determined, but it is expected it will be Saturday or Monday next. This will be the first meeting of the American delegation.

From the moment the conference was decided upon experts of the Department and of the Army and Navy have been preparing data for submission to the American delegates. This includes information of such various character that it has been impossible to formulate it, but enough has been collated to give the delegates a basis on which to work. An important part of this data relates to the report of naval officials concerning what they regard as a proper basis for the reduction of naval armaments which will insure the safety of the United States.

It is expected that report will recommend the programme already begun by President Harding, Senator Lodge and Secretary Hughes of making it plain that the conference does not contemplate disarmament and will further the idea that this Government, with the support of the American people, is prepared if necessary to enter into a much more ambitious naval building programme than was ever hitherto contemplated. Such a result of the conference would be deplored, but if it is necessary the Administration is prepared to go ahead.

It is believed that some such programme is necessary to combat the idea which appears prevalent that this Government contemplates reducing its armament regardless of what other nations may do. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Suggestions made once more in England that the United States cancel its foreign debt met with no favorable reaction here. It is the confident belief that there is no sentiment in this country for such action and the foreign debt will continue to be regarded by this Government as a valued asset.

It is believed that the suggestion may have been prompted by misconception of the bill now before Congress authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to fund the foreign debt. At the Treasury Department it was made clear that the proposed legislation gives the Secretary of the Treasury no authority to forgive the debt or any part of it. Only Congress could do that.

With no popular sentiment favoring cancellation of the foreign debt no Congressional action of this character could be expected. Neither is the suggestion that by a general cancellation of foreign debts Great Britain and the United States would be on an equal basis accepted here.

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WHITE RUSSIAN PLOT LEADS 150 TO DEATH

Many Executions in Odessa
Owing to Discovery of Al-
leged Conspiracy.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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REVAL (via London), Sept. 28.—One hundred and fifty persons have been put to death and many arrests made in Odessa in connection with a "White" Russian plot. Such plots are now being discovered all over the Ukraine. The Bolshevik regard Col. Mamoff as the leader of them.

Among the men shot were MM. Enits, Alexander Burd, Kravtsov and Morozoff, who himself belonged to the extraordinary Commission.

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Sept. 28.—The British Government has received an appeal from Michael Fedoroff, president of the United Relief Committee of Russian Organizations in Europe, asking its intervention to save the lives of N. M. Kishkin, S. N. Prokopovitch and Catherine Kusova, members of Maxim Gorky's disbanded famine relief committee, who, Fedoroff states, have been condemned to death by an extraordinary commission in Soviet Russia.

Fedoroff appeals against the predicament of the Russians who attempted to aid the Bolsheviks in famine relief work is a challenge to the civilized world, and expresses the hope that all possible steps will be taken to save them from the fate of the sixty-one representatives of Russian culture and science who recently were executed in Petrograd.

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Sept. 28.—Dr. Nansen sent a telegraphic message to M. Tchitcherine, the Russian Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs, inquiring if the report was true that several members of the Russian Relief Committee had been executed. M. Tchitcherine replied that the report was absolutely false, and that all the members of the committee were quite safe. Dr. Nansen is making further inquiries.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—What purports to be another warning issued at Moscow by the Third Internationale has reached a number of the European capitals. It is signed with the names of the president of the Internationale and eight of its members, including Karl Radek and Bela Kun.

The document, which is addressed to "Our world comrades," warns them to be on guard. It describes the Russian Soviet Government at the present moment as being "between the hammer and the anvil," and says the danger threatening Soviet Russia also is threatening "the entire world revolution."

"Soviet Russia, which up to the present refused to enter into any compromise with western capital, and on the contrary forced western capital to yield," says the document, "is now compelled by force of circumstances to modify its previous tactics and consent to a series of concessions to the kings of world capital, representatives of bourgeois America, and also the representatives of European capital."

"The Russia of workers is on the brink of disaster and ruin. Famine grips the throat of the exhausted nation, and the Soviet had no alternative but to yield on the question of certain details in order to provide bread for the dying."

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Family Life Afloat

A boy of five and a six months' old baby are with this Nastropes woman on her annual journey to the winter hunting. When she is paddling the baby is carried in a duffle bag on her back. The canoe is 17 feet long and carries about 1500 pounds dead weight, leaving little room for provisions. They will feed themselves by hunting and fishing while on the journey.

No. 65—Natives on Their Travels

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